THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, February 17, 1806.

MEMOIRS *of the late* LORD NELSON.

(Continued from Page 116.)

Public Funeral of Lord Viscount Nelson.

Copied from the London Gazette, of Jan. 18, 1806.

ON Wednesday the 8th instant, the remains of the late Right Hon. Horatio Viscount and Baron Nelson, K. B. Vice-Admiral of the White Squadron of his majesty's fleet, were conveyed from the royal hospital of Greenwich, where they had lain in state, in the painted hall, on the three preceding days, to the Admiralty.

Soon after ten o'clock in the morning, the several persons, appointed to attend the remains from Greenwich, assembled at the governor's house within the royal hospital; and, at about one o'clock, proceeded in the barges according to the following order, viz.

First Barge,
Covered with black cloth.

Drums—Two trumpets, with their banners in the steerage.

The standard, at the head, borne by Captain Sir Francis Laforey, bart. of the Spartiate, supported by Lieutenants William Collins, Barker, and George Autram, of the royal navy.

The guidon, at the door place, borne by Captain Henry William Bayntun, of the Leviathan, (in the absence, by indisposition, of Captain Durham,) supported by two lieutenants of the royal navy, all in their full uniform coats, with black waistcoats, breeches, and stockings, and crape round their arms and hats.

Rouge Croix and Blue Mantle, pursuivants of arms, in close mourning, with their tabards over their cloaks, and hatbands and scarves.

SECOND BARGE,
Covered with black cloth.
Four trumpets in the steerage.

Heralds of arms, habited as those in the first barge, bearing the surcoat, target and sword, helm and crest, and the gauntlet and spurs of the deceased.

The banner of the deceased, as a knight of the bath, at the head, borne by Captain Edward Rotheram, of the Royal Sovereign, supported by two lieutenants of the royal navy.

The great banner, with the augmentations, at the door place, borne by Captain Robert Moorsom, of the Revenge, supported by Lieutenants David Keys, and Nicholas Tucker, of the Nassau, all habited as those in the first barge.

THIRD BARGE,

Covered with black velvet, the top adorned with plumes of black feathers, and in the centre, upon four shields of the arms of the deceased joining in point, a viscount's coronet. Three bannerolls of the family lineage of the deceased, on each side, affixed to the external parts of the barge.

Six trumpets, with their banners as before, in the steerage.

Six officers of the royal navy, habited as those in the other barges; one to each bannerol, viz.

Lieutenant (now Captain) John Pasco.
Lieutenant (now Captain) John Yule.
Thomas Atkinson, master of the Victory.
Lieutenant (now Captain) —— Williams.
Lieutenant George Browne.
Lieutenant James Uzuld Purches.

The Body,

Covered with a large sheet, and a pall of velvet adorned with six escocheons.

Norroy king of arms, in the absence, by indisposition, of Clarenceux, habited as the other officers of arms, and bearing, at the head of the body, a viscount's coronet upon a black velvet cushion.

At the head of the barge the union flag of the united kingdom.

Attendants on the body while at Greenwich, in mourning.

FOURTH BARGE,
Covered with black cloth.

The chief mourner, Sir Peter Parker, bart. admiral of the fleet, with his two supporters, Admiral Samuel Viscount Hood, and Admiral William Lord Radstock; six assistant mourners, viz. Admirals Benjamin Caldwell, Sir Roger Curtis, knt. and bart.

bart. Richard Rodney Bligh, Sir Charles Morice Pole, bart. and Vice-Admirals Charles Edmund Nugent and Charles Powell Hamilton; four supporters of the pall, viz. Vice-Admirals James Hawkins Whitshed and Thomas Taylor, Admiral Sir John Orde, bart. (in the absence, by indisposition, of Vice-Admiral Henry Savage, who had been nominated to this station,) and Rear-Admiral Eliab Harvey: six supporters of the canopy, viz. Rear-Admirals Thomas Drury, Sir William Henry Douglas, bart. Thomas Wells, Sir Isaac Coffin, bart. John Aylmer, and William Domett; and the train-bearer of the chief mourner, the Hon. Henry Blackwood, of the Euryalus, all in mourning cloaks, over their respective full uniform coats, black waistcoats, breeches, and stockings, crape round their arms, and crape hatbands.

Windsor herald, acting for Norroy king of arms, habited as the other officers of arms.

The banner of emblems, at the door-place, borne by Captain Thomas Masterman Hardy, of the Victory, supported by Lieutenants Andrew King and George Miller Bligh, of the royal navy, habited as those in the other barges.

The barges of his majesty, and of the lords commissioners for executing the office of lord high admiral, followed, singly; and, immediately after, the right hon. the lord mayor in the city state barge; followed by the barges of several of the companies of the city of London, singly, according to their rank; their respective colours half-staff.

The procession was attended by a considerable number of gun-boats and row-boats of the river fencibles; and the lord mayor, in his character of conservator of the river Thames, highly distinguished himself upon this occasion by his lordship's judicious and unremitting attentions to their due arrangement and order.

As the procession passed the tower of London, minute guns were there fired. During the time of landing the body, and the several persons from the four mourning barges, at Whitehall-stairs; the king's and Admiralty barges, and those of the lord mayor, and the city companies, lay on their oars.

Order of the Procession from Whitehall-stairs to the Admiralty, on Foot.

Drums and trumpets.

Rouge Croix pursuivant of arms.

The standard, borne by the captain, and supported by the two lieutenants before mentioned.

Trumpet.

Blue Mantle pursuivant of arms.

The guidon, borne and supported as in the barge.

Two trumpets.

Rouge Dragon pursuivant of arms.

The banner of the deceased as a knight of the bath, borne and supported as in the barge.

Two trumpets.

Richmond herald.

The Great banner, borne and supported as in the barge.

Gauntlet and spurs, borne by York herald.

Helm and crest, ——— Somerset herald.

Sword and target, ——— Lancaster herald.

Surcoat, ——— Chester herald.

Six trumpets.

Norroy king of arms, in the absence of Clarenceux, bearing the coronet on a black velvet cushion.

Three banner-rolls of the family lineage of the deceased, borne as before mentioned.

Two supporters of the pall.

The Body,

Covered with a black velvet pall, adorned with escocheons, under a canopy supported by six admirals.

Two supporters of the pall.

Three banner-rolls of the family lineage of the deceased, borne as before mentioned.

Garter principal king of arms (absent, by indisposition).

Supporter, Admiral Lord Radstock.

The Chief Mourner. Sir Peter Parker, bart. admiral of the fleet.

Supporter, Admiral Viscount Hood.

Train-bearer,

Captain the Hon. Henry Blackwood.

The six admirals beforenamed, assistant mourners.

Windsor herald, acting for Norroy king of arms.

The banner of emblems, borne and supported as in the barge.

Attendants on the body while at Greenwich.

Upon arrival at the Admiralty, the body was there deposited, privately, 'till the following day, and the persons who were in the procession retired.

(To be continued.)

TRIAL of Sir ROBERT CALDER,

December 23, 1805.

THIS trial took place on board the Prince of Wales man of war, of 98 guns, at Portsmouth. The investigation was to ascertain—whether the wind and distances were, on the 23d and 24th of July last, such, that Sir Robert Calder had it in his power

power to bring the enemy again into action? Whether there was danger, that amidst a renewed action, the squadrons from Rochefort and Ferrol, might have come up to the aid of Villeneuve and Gravina? Whether the crippled ships and prizes must have been lost, if the action had been renewed? Whether there was, after the first action, a sufficient force of uninjured shipping in the British fleet for its renewal? And whether Sir Robert Calder, the commander in chief, actually desired or attempted to renew it?

A letter from Admiral Calder to Mr. Marsden was then read; it was dated Prince of Wales, off Cadiz, and expressed, that he had learnt, with astonishment, from some of his friends, that reports to his prejudice had been circulated, and that his conduct had been improperly animaverted upon at a period when he was abroad, employed in the service of his country; and that to obviate the effect of such unfounded reports, he was desirous of having a naval court-martial.

Admiral Stirling, Admiral Martin, Captain Durham, Captain Inman, and Mr. Henry Craddock, were the principal witnesses for the prosecution. It was ascertained, and was even avowed by Sir Robert Calder himself, that he did not attempt to renew the action, on the 23d or the 24th of July. It appeared that the wind blew, during those days, in a direction very unfavourable to the departure of the Ferrol squadron out of that port. It did not appear, that there was any great danger that the Rochefort squadron should come up to reinforce the combined fleets, if the British commander had given them battle. The strength of the British fleet was judged to have been—not considerably impaired, in the first engagement. It was even stated, that the enemy did not always industriously avoid a new rencounter. Nor could it be established as a fact, that the crippled ships and the prizes must have been, of necessity, abandoned and lost, if the British squadron had again engaged the enemy.

Defence of Vice-Admiral Sir Robert Calder.

After having been employed on an arduous, difficult, and important service during the last ten months; having at the end of that period, compelled into action a greatly superior fleet of the enemy, who had, at the same time, the advantage of the wind; and having, under these difficulties, gained over his enemy, what he conceived, in the circumstances of the case, a great and important victory, he found himself compelled to request a trial, in consequence of his not having renewed the engagement during two days after, in which the enemy remained in sight. Surmises and misrepresentations of his conduct had gone abroad, to allow which to pass over in silence,

silence, would have been construed into a consciousness of guilt.

He had accordingly felt himself obliged to apply for a court-martial, to inquire into his conduct, convinced that the result would completely refute the charges with which he had been loaded. The admiralty had been pleased to accede to his request; but though he had begged that it might be an inquiry into every part of his conduct, both prior and subsequent, they had limited it to the days of the twenty third and twenty-fourth, on which days he was charged with not having done the best in his power, and all that could have been done, to take and destroy all the ships of the enemy, which, the charge asserted, he ought to have engaged. This, therefore, was the only point for the consideration of the court. He lamented the investigation was not of a broader and more unlimited nature. If it had been practicable for him to have entered into the merits of the case, he should have been able to shew that his conduct had been not only justifiable, but praise worthy. That he had not only saved his own fleet, but had been instrumental in the saving of his country. He trusted with confidence, that the judgment of the court, this day, would restore him to the good opinion of the country—of that country, for which he had bled, and for which he had conquered. The charge against him was not precisely within any of the articles of war, although it assumed one of them as its foundation.

He admitted that it was at all times the duty of a British commander to engage any ship of the enemy when it might be in his power; but he denied that it was incumbent on any such commander to prove the physical impossibility of his so engaging. Neither could he admit that a British commander having once met an enemy, whom he had engaged, was bound so long as that enemy remained in sight, to do every thing in his power to renew the contest. He had two instances of a contrary practice, observed on two memorable occasions, and by two of the greatest commanders the British navy had ever produced. He meant that of Lord Howe, on the 1st of June, 1794, and that under Earl St. Vincent, on the 14th of February, 1797, on both of which occasions these eminent officers remained for some time in sight of the enemy, whom they had previously engaged, without courting a renewal of the contest. Of the latter he could speak with more confidence, having himself been Earl St. Vincent's captain on that memorable occasion. Of the propriety of this conduct, in the case of these noble commanders, no doubt had been started, and they were allowed to have exercised a sound discretion. His, he contended, was a case of more necessity than either. It was not the fleet with which he had been engaged that he had alone to contend. He had to provide against an attack from the Roche-

fort and Ferrol squadrons, in addition to that then in sight. In February he had been sent by Admiral Cornwallis to blockade Ferrol, with seven sail of the line. This was all that could be spared him, and although he repeatedly applied for two frigates, only one could be spared him. It was not his meaning to reflect on the admiralty. He was well assured they had enough to do to supply ships where they were most wanted. It was his object at present to defend himself, not to accuse others.

In the same month the Toulon and Cadiz fleets joined, and it was ascertained they had proceeded to the West Indies. So dangerous was his situation at this time that Lord Gardner directed him to leave Ferrol and come to his lordship—thirteen sail of the line being then about to leave Ferrol, and go to Corunna. On the 10th of July they had actually began to move, and signal posts had been established between Cape Finisterre and Corunna to Ferrol, to enable them to judge when to come out. By an order from Admiral Cornwallis, Rear-Admiral Stirling was ordered to join Sir Robert, and they were ordered to cruize thirty or forty leagues to the westward for six or eight days, and then to return. The enemy's force was then stated to be sixteen sail, with whom, if the prisoner did not fall in, they were immediately to proceed to their respective stations off Ferrol and Rochefort. On the 15th he was joined by Rear-Admiral Stirling. The same wind, however, which enabled Admiral Stirling to leave Rochefort, enabled the fleet which he had been blockading there to escape; which it did, as appears, from the evidence of Admiral Stirling himself, on the 18th, to Corunna, where it could get out at any time. The wind had continued nearly for two days to be fair for their departure, and if they had taken advantage of the night, they might have joined the enemy. It was out of dispute that on the 24th the wind was N. E. which was a favourable wind for going out, and it was known to all the court that partial winds occasionally blow which might even enable them to effect a similar purpose.

At this time a letter was received, written by Lord Nelson, then bound to Europe, to Lord Gardner, and transmitted to Sir Robert, strongly recommending a careful watch to be kept on Ferrol, as a port into which the combined fleets might be supposed to attempt to enter. Accordingly on the 21st they came in sight, much more numerous, however, than had been supposed, not consisting of sixteen sail of the line, as Admiral Cornwallis's accounts led to expect, but of twenty sail of the line, seven frigates, two brigs, and a lugger; while to oppose them there were only fifteen sail of the line, two frigates, and two cutters. Notwithstanding this superiority, and every disadvantage of wind and weather, he effected his object of forcing

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the enemy to battle; and, amidst the numberless insinuations which had unwarrantably been thrown out against his conduct, he had never yet heard any objection started as to the mode of his commencing the action on that day, or to his conduct in the course of it. By the valour of the admiral who was second in command on that day, and by the bravery of his fleet in general, he had been enabled to achieve what he presumed to think was, in such circumstances, a great and important victory; a victory than which few instances, and those of modern date, more important, or more decisive in their nature, had been accomplished with such a disparity of numbers. At the time the firing ceased, the enemy were to windward. The vice-admiral then hailed the Windsor Castle, which was in a damaged state, desiring her to prepare for action. He kept in the same tack during the whole of the night to protect her, keeping, at the same time, as close as possible to the enemy. During the night he was engaged in repairing the damage the squadron had sustained, and being then ignorant of the extent of the damage, he expected it would be in his power to renew the engagement. He accordingly sent the Frisk cutter, and the Nile lugger, to collect the returns of the state of the different ships. These returns would be laid before the court, and it would be for them to judge, if he would have been warranted, labouring under the disadvantages which he should have to prove to them, and with his fleet so much damaged, in attempting to renew the action.

(To be continued.)

DESCRIPTION *of* BONAPARTE *and his* WIFE.

THE following letter was lately addressed from Paris to a friend of the writer's at Boston, in New England, and it appeared in the eleventh number of a new miscellany published in that city under the title of the Monthly Anthology. It contains a few lively touches of all that can be seen of Bonaparte; and though what was seen is set down with all the ease and pleasantness of table-talk, it will be acknowledged by every traveller to be a faithful sketch.

" *August* 16, 1805.

" Since I wrote so plentifully by the Anacreon, you need not expect much more very soon; though, while the subject is fresh, why should I not tell you about the wonder of the age, Le Grand Napoleon, ou Napoleon le Grand? I will set down just what trifles I observed.

" The first time I saw him was at a review, which is usually on Sunday. I was stationed in a balcony, and with my opera-

glass determined to watch the movement of every muscle. The troops, all cavalry without the yard of the palace, were drawn up in several lines in the Place Carrousel. Within the iron-railing, or court, were the consular, now imperial, foot-guards. I could not help observing that the cavalry was much better mounted and equipped than I expected. They were in all about 5000. They kept no order in the lines 'till the trumpets announced that his little majesty was mounted on his white Arabian. At that instant I looked towards the court, and saw a little fellow galloping in full speed through the lines, attended by a Mameluke and half a dozen officers covered with lace and plumes, who with much difficulty kept pace with him. He now sallied forth into the square, and was soon stopped by a crowd of women and men who were waiting to present their petitions. I was a little surprized to see him so willing to expose himself. He was within a few paces of me. He immediately dropped his reins, and took the petitions, which were thrust upon him with very little ceremony. Some he instantly handed over to his officers, and others he read with much apparent interest, frequently conversing with the petitioners, and looking with an eye which is not easily described, nor to be observed indeed without some dread.

He sat on his horse in the posture of a man who was absorbed in a thousand reflections, and with a *hollow stomach*, as children call it, as if he had not eaten for a month. He was dressed in a blue coat with broad white facing and little buttons, and buttoned close up to his chin without showing any linen; a pair of white breeches, and black boots; and above all a small cocked-hat, no trimmings, but with a little sneaking cockade (the last fragment of the revolution) on the top edge. He has a face rather handsome, that is, the features are so; the lower-jaw and chin somewhat large and full. His teeth are fine. His complexion is neither sallow, nor unhealthy, as has been said: it is of that fairness which Mr. **** has. His hair is black, and cut all away from the ears, without whiskers. His eyes shew much of the white: the pupil being large, and the iris very small, they have a very bright, darting, and fierce look. All around they are literally black and blue, as if he had not slept, but thought and studied night and day. There is, on the whole, a look of great energy, and none of any amiable quality: less of the sun-burnt warrior, than of the student of "*genie*." After resting an hour in reading petitions, he suddenly snatched up his reins, regardless of what was about or before him, and dashed on in full gallop. He rides very badly, with short stirrups, which throw him continually on the back of his saddle. Every motion is so quick, so *militaire*, that there is neither grace nor dignity in his deportment; nothing but his face is imperial,

and that will rank very well with the Cæsars; there is much of the Roman in it.

"Now you shall have him in another light, at the theatre, where he is always much exposed, though, as he sits low in the box, if he were a little taller he would be much more so. When he enters, he is so quick, that he is always seated before any one is aware of his august presence. A faint applause is attempted, and he half rises, which puts an end to it. During the performance he looks continually towards the stage, now and then catching a glance at his chained-tigers in the pit, turning his eyes in a sly way without moving his head. He continually picks his nose like an irritable man, takes snuff, and then Frenchman-like, blows his trumpet. He has a fine high forehead, that is, it is rather narrow, but the distance is great between his eye brows and the hair, which grows far from the face. His hair is totally neglected, cut rather short. I have frequently been at the theatre when in the old plays of Racine and Corneille there have been very severe allusions to his situation, to his usurpation, &c. which probably the audience applauded in old times, but they are now sure to receive them with instantaneous and loud applause. He however only runs his forefinger under the end of his nose: 'Kick if you will, but I have ye fast enough.'

"A new play, however, called Henry VIII. came out, which he attended, as he often does a first representation; it contained a continual invective against him, and he instantly ordered the piece to be suppressed. You may ask, how they dared bring it forth? Why he might with more safety imprison every man in Paris, than encroach upon the liberty of the stage; it is a Frenchman's birth-right, I may say. It is the school in which they receive all their principles; and where twenty-eight are opened every night, you may imagine it to be the substitute both for school and church.

"To continue my subject: when Bonaparte rises to quit the theatre, he turns to the audience, shews a fine row of teeth (what a tiger's grin!), makes several quick bows, and disappears. A few voices immediately, as ordered, sound forth the 'Vive l'empereur!' and a few clap their hands; but I never yet have witnessed any thing but a cold indifference in any audience. The French are very quick and unanimous; and could he once excite them to applaud him, it would pervade the whole audience, and there would be no end to their enthusiasm.

"As to the empress, she looks, from knowing a little of the old court, somewhat as becomes imperial majesty. There is an appearance of great anxiety, of that kind of disturbed feelings which a person has who is mounted on a high place, or in danger of being overturned in a carriage; a look which all her guards and splendour cannot banish from her countenance.

She

She is generally very well painted, well dressed, and seems to be about fifty. She is, or pretends to be, very religious. I saw on her toilette at St. Cloud several religious works and a splendid Bible! It is said she is much troubled by the predictions of a fortune-teller when young. She was told that she would marry a nobleman, Count Beauharnois; that he would die an unnatural death; that afterwards she would pass a miserable and perilous life; would finally be a queen, and greater than a queen, but '*gare la chute!*' was the sentence: 'Beware of the fall!' All this would naturally be invented, but I was told it by Frenchmen who were in the habit of meeting her during Bonaparte's absence in Egypt.

"She seldom is seen in public, which I can account for only from her aversion to meet the eyes of some former gallants, who would proudly proclaim their intimacy.

"I should like to describe to you the wonderful magnificence of the apartments of St. Cloud, to which I had access in company with Madame Lauriston. Among other things, I could not help observing in the hall of the throne, fitted up or begun before he was proclaimed emperor, that the cornice was ornamented by a cock (France) on the back of a crouching lion! (England). The gentleman pointed at it very significantly. In four compartments of the ceiling were the imperial arms, executed before the people willed so kindly that he should be urged to do them the favour to accept the empire!

"The apartments of the empress are the most beautiful. The window-curtains are principally of the finest muslin and silk, thrown over a rod or arrow, and drawn aside; silk on one and muslin the other side of the window.

"Her bathing-room is a curiosity. It is about eight feet square, and composed entirely of mirrors. On two opposite sides are narrow pilasters, which are so regularly and so many times reflected, that one is obliged to feel of the walls not to believe that it is a gallery three hundred feet long.

"I could not avoid observing at Malmaison, that in Bonaparte's library every thing relates to Egypt; books, maps, and models. And at the annual exhibition the painting which was crowned with laurel represented him in the famous hospital at Jaffa, among the pestiferous soldiers, touching the virulent sore of one. I could mention other things showing not only his penchant to Egypt, but that he is proud and flattered by his bloody and abominable achievements there. Frenchmen are kept ignorant of, and many will not believe, what Sir R. Wilson wrote.

"I often asked at Paris, whether he governed, or Talleyrand, or some others, and was always assured that he originates and conducts every thing. Talleyrand may be ordered to draw up such a document; Cambaceres such a law;

Marbois or Lebrun such a scheme of finance: but he is prime mover.

"Bonaparte governs with an energy truly admirable; and although we hear of 'deeds of darkness,' and all that, much exaggerated, the people of Paris, from the excellency of the police, enjoy all the benefits which result from perfect order; benefits which I wish were to be enjoyed as surely in Boston."

PARISIAN FASHIONS.

LATELY, nothing was to be seen in the ball-room but rose-coloured robes; now lilac is the prevailing colour. They are still of crape, and the corset of white satin. We observe, upon a white robe, a corset of purple velvet, laced behind with the trimming of the robe, and the stripes of the sleeves of the same stuff. Some ladies, in the dance, wear robes *a l'enfont*, closed behind with three knots of ribbons. The robes, which are not worn with a corset, of another colour, have a white scarf knotted at the side. The scarf has afforded an opportunity to revive the fashion of *psyches*, a sort of robes which leave only one side of the neck visible. The *psyche* commences at the right shoulder and loses itself under the left bosom, where the scarf is knotted. A ball-dress has been lately noticed as a model of simplicity, which consists of a sky-blue robe, and two large bunches of white roses, with a slender wreath, in a transverse direction, between one end of it, fixed under the left bosom; the other upon the bottom of the robe. The fashionable turbans are composed of two pieces, one of white silk and silver, the other of purple, rose, or amaranthus velvet. The head dresses, in hair, at the ball and the theatre, are quite platted before, and form a large front. If there be a ringlet, it is a small one. The circles, where dancing is introduced, present the greatest variety of *costume*. Two sorts of dresses are there chiefly required; the one for the ladies who look on, the other for those who dance. The female spectator wears a full dress robe, with a long train of bright orange red velvet, or satin, with ornaments of gold; but the ladies who dance, are dressed in a manner more light, and calculated to shew the shape. Scarcely is their agile form covered with a cloud of crape; no train, no plaits upon the hips, no heavy trimming. After a *belle* has danced, she puts a small swansdown *fichu* upon her neck.

REAL APPARITION.

THE castle of Ardivillers, near Breteuil, was reported to be haunted by evil spirits. Dreadful noises were heard, and flames

flames were seen, by night, to issue from various apertures. The farmer, who was entrusted with the care of the house, in the absence of its owner, the President D'Ardivillers, could alone live there. The spirit seemed to respect him; but any person who ventured to take up a night's lodging in the castle, was sure to hear the marks of his audacity.

Superstition, you know, is catching. Bye and bye the peasants in the neighbourhood began to see strange sights. Sometimes a dozen ghosts would appear in the air above the castle, dancing a brawl. At other times, a number of presidents and counsellors, in red robes, appeared in the adjacent meadow. There they sat in judgment on a gentleman in the country, who had been beheaded for some crime a hundred years before. Another peasant met, in the night, a gentleman related to the president, walking with the wife of a gentleman in the neighbourhood who were seen caressing each other and then vanished. As they were both alive, perhaps they were both obliged to the devil for preventing scandal. In short, many had seen, and all had heard of, the wonders of the castle of Ardivillers.

The affair had continued four or five years, to the great loss of the president, who had been obliged to let the estate to the farmer at a very low rent. At length, suspecting some artifice, he resolved to visit and inspect the castle.

Taking with him two gentlemen, his friends, they determined to pass the night in the same apartment; and if any noise or apparition disturbed them, to discharge their pistols at either ghost or sound. As spirits know all things, they were probably aware of these preparations, and not one appeared. But in the chamber just above, a dreadful rattling of chains was heard, and the wife and children of the farmer ran to the assistance of their lord. They threw themselves on their knees, begging that he would not visit that terrible room. "My lord," said they, what can human force effect against people of t'other world? M. de Fecancour attempted the same enterprise, years ago, and he returned with a dislocated arm; M. D'Urselles tried too; he was overwhelmed with bundles of hay, and was ill for a long time after." In short, so many attempts were mentioned, that the president's friends advised him to abandon the design.

But they determined to encounter the danger themselves. Proceeding up stairs to an extensive room, each having a candle in one hand, and a pistol in the other, they found it full of thick smoke, which encreased more and more from some flames that were visible. Soon after, the ghost or spirit faintly appeared in the middle; he seemed quite black, and was amusing himself with cutting capers; but another eruption of flame and smoke hid him from their view. He had horns and a long tail, and was, in truth, a dreadful object.

One

One of the gentlemen found his courage rather fail. "This is certainly supernatural," said he, "let us return." The other, endued with more boldness, asserted, that the smoke was that of gunpowder, which is no supernatural composition; "and if this same spirit," added he, "knew his own nature and trade, he should have extinguished our candles."

With these words he jumped amidst the smoke and flames, and pursued the spectre. He soon discharged his pistol at its back, and hit him exactly in the middle; but was himself seized with fear, when the spirit, far from falling, turned round and rushed upon him. Soon recovering himself, he resolved to grasp the ghost, to discover whether it were indeed aerial and impassible. Mr. Spectre, disordered by this new manœuvre, rushed to a tower, and descended a small staircase.

The gentleman ran after, and never losing sight of him, passed several courts and gardens, still turning as the spirit winded, 'till at length he entered an open barn. Here the pursuer, certain, as he thought of his prey, shut the door; but when he turned round, what was his amazement to see the spectre totally disappear!

In great confusion he called to his servants for more lights. On examining the spot of the spirit's disappearance, he found a trap door, upon raising which, several matrasses appeared, to break the fall of any headlong adventurer. Descending, he found the spirit—the farmer!

His dress, of a complete bull's hide, secured him from pistol shot; and the horns and tail were not diabolical, but merely natural appendages of the original. The rogue confessed all his trick; and was pardoned, on paying the arrears due for five years, at the old rent of the land.

DESCRIPTION *of* MESSINA.

By a British Officer.

WHEN we arrived at Messina, with the utmost difficulty we procured one small room amongst four of us, which, like the cobler's stall, was to serve for parlour, and bed-room, and all. In this situation an English traveller, hearing of our distress, entered our wretched apartment, and informed us that he had an excellent sitting-room in the house, which he begged we would make use of upon all occasions; an offer which we gladly accepted. With this gentleman we joined messes during our stay in Messina, and found him to be a man of fashion and information. The inn, called the Leon d'Or, proved to be a very good one. Here it may not be amiss to observe, that the best plan to save a great deal of trouble, as well as expence, is to

bargain with the innkeepers for your board and lodging. We gave for our's, including wine, something above six shillings each per day, and I believe we were overcharged

Messina is delightfully situated. Behind the town are some high, romantic, and well cultivated mountains: in its front is a most beautiful bay, on the opposite side of which are the snow-clad mountains of Calabria, and at their feet several considerable towns. It is also the second largest town in Sicily, and perhaps, in point of trade, not much inferior to Palermo. It manufactures silks, cottons, &c. which, together with a vast quantity of corn, it exports to the neighbouring nations. At the time I am speaking of, the bay was crowded with merchantmen of different countries waiting for cargoes. Messina suffered dreadfully by the earthquake of 1783, the ravages of which have not been repaired, or the ruins removed. Many of these, particularly a range of regular buildings extending upwards of a mile by the side of the bay, and called the Marino, are still to be seen, and indicate that Messina must, prior to that time, have been considerably larger and much handsomer than it is at present. The same earthquake ravaged the greater part of Sicily and Calabria. In the latter country it is said to have destroyed many towns, and upwards of forty thousand inhabitants. Valleys were exalted, and mountains laid low: old rivers were choaked up, and in an instant new ones appeared: in fine, a more awful and destructive convulsion of nature was never felt.

Many parts of this town, particularly the quay, wore a greater appearance of industry and the bustle of business than any other I had seen in the country. Still I must pronounce Sicily throughout to be the very hot-bed and nursery of depravity. Every species of iniquity is practised from childhood to old-age, almost from the cradle to the grave. I speak chiefly of the lowest class of people, numbers of whom obtain a livelihood by the lowest, the most abandoned, and the most degrading of vices. This may perhaps be in some measure attributable to a most pernicious itch for gambling, which appears to pervade every rank, and employ almost every hour. By the bye, an itch of another sort is nearly equally prevalent in this country.

The opera here is much superior to those at Malta and Catania; but one thing struck me as indicating extreme poverty either in the people or manager, which is, that there are no lights provided except those upon the stage; each party is therefore obliged to bring candles for its own box, or sit in the dark.

I recollect nothing else worth seeing in this town. The arsenal, which stands at the bottom of the bay, appears to be a strong stone work; but foreigners are not permitted to enter it.

In

In the centre of the bay is another fortification, which is used as a quarantine-office and barrack. The governor is a polite and pleasant man, spoke very good English, and informed me he had been formerly in our navy.

STATUE *of* KING CHARLES *at* CHARING-CROSS.

MEN on horseback may be very frequently observed upon our ancient seals; and we have one instance, in a bold bas-relief, so early as 1296, in a trefoil, in the larger pediment of Edmund earl of Lancaster's tomb, in Westminster Abbey, although among the earlier periods of our sculpture nothing like an equestrian statue can be found.

Saint-Foix, in his Historical Essays upon Paris, observes, that under the first, second, and third race of the French monarchs, 'till the reign of Louis XIII. if the statue of a king was produced, it was only to be placed upon his tomb, or at the porch of some church or royal house which he had caused to be built or repaired. The equestrian statue of Henry the Fourth, upon the Pont Neuf, was the first general and public monument of the kind erected to the glory of the kings of France. Like the statue we are about to mention, it was of bronze, was begun August 23, 1614, and finished in 1635. The pedestal, together with its ornaments, was the work of Francheville; the horse was made by Jean du Boulogne, at Florence, and the figure of Henry IV. by Du Pré. The whole costing 30,000 crowns.—(*Brice, Nouvelle Descr. de la Ville de Paris*, iv. 179.)

We have been thus particular in regard to the statue which stood upon the Pont Neuf, as it seems to have been the example for that at Charing-cross; in which, as an elegant critic has observed, the commanding grace of the figure, and exquisite form of the horse, are striking to the most unpractised eye. This piece was cast by Herbert Le Sœur, in 1633, in a spot of ground near the church of Covent-garden; and not being erected before the commencement of the civil war, it was sold by the parliament to John Rivet, a brazier, living at the Dial, near Holborn-conduit, with strict orders to break it in pieces. But the man produced some fragments of old brass, and concealed the statue and horse under ground 'till the restoration. They had been made at the expence of the family of Howard-Arundel, who have still receipts to shew by whom and for whom both this and Le Sœur's other work (the statue of William earl of Pembroke, in the picture-gallery at Oxford were cast.

The statue at Charing-cross was set up in its present situation at the expence of the crown, about 1678, by an order from the earl of Danby, afterwards duke of Leeds: when the pedestal

was made by Grinlin Gibbons. M. de Archenholz *(Tableau d'Angleterre, i.* 163.) gives a diverting anecdote of Rivet. He cast a vast number of knives and forks, which he sold as made of the broken statue. They were bought with great eagerness by the royalists, from affection to their monarchs; and by the rebels as a mark of triumph over their murdered sovereign.

FLAMINGOS.

CAPTAIN DAMPIER tells us, in his voyages, that he saw a few flamingos in the Cape de Verd Islands. He attempted to shoot some of them, but they were so shy and timid that he found this a very difficult thing to do. He informs us, that the flesh, both of the old and young ones, was very lean and black, yet that it was good eating, and neither tasted fishy, nor was otherwise unpleasant.

He says, that when many of them are standing together by the side of a pond, they have very much the appearance, at the distance of half or three quarters of a mile, of a brick wall, for their feathers are of the colour of new red bricks, and they often range themselves in strait lines.

The young ones are at first of a light grey, and as their wing-feathers spring out, they become darker; but they do not attain their proper colour, nor their usual beautiful shape, 'till they are at least ten or eleven months old.

REFLECTION.

DIOGENES once, when discoursing of virtue, observed that nobody gave attention; on which he began singing, when all crowded to hear him, which made him exclaim, "Great gods! how much more is folly admired than wisdom!"

Answer, by Triangularius, of Evershot School, to the Question, inserted August 12.

LET a=8 feet the circumference, and b=36 feet the length of the tree, then, per common practice, the □ of 1-4th of an △ by b, gives 144 feet, the content thus found; but the □ of 1-5th of an △, by 26, we have 184,32 feet, the content by this rule, which exceeds the former by 40,32 feet per question, therefore the common method is exceedingly erroneous; the latter differs but very little per rule for finding the content of a cylinder, and as easy as the false, consequently is sufficient for any practical purpose.

☞ R. Maffett, of Plymouth, has also answered this question.

Answer, by T. Trobridge, Plymouth, to E. Mallard's Charade, inserted Sept. 18.

WHEN lightnings flash, and awful thunders roar,
And waves with fury beat the rocky shore,
EDDYSTONE LIGHTHOUSE, firmly may it stand!
To guide the brave defenders of our land.

Answer, by H. Glasson, of Crowan, to W. Bickham's Charade, inserted December 4.

HONESTY I have been told
Is much more excellent than gold.

*** A similar answer has been received from T. Bullock, of St. Columb.

A CHARADE, *by Adrianus.*

WHERE plenty of lawyers are often conven'd;
And for most what's the chief end of trade:
Connect the two parts, and you'll quickly perceive,
My whole for my second's oft made.

A CHARADE, *by a Young Lady.*

WHERE the jolly young waterman seeks for a fare,
My first you will certainly find;
My second ne'er fails to come in for a share,
Where a fare he has had to his mind:
My whole will display a maritime town,
Of ancient record, and modern renown.

A CHARADE, *by J. Channon, of Ottery.*

TO find out my first, ye bards, its requir'd,
To name half a root by many admir'd;
With a place in the earth where riches are seen:
The whole forms a colour I greatly esteem:
It imitates nature, it gives a good grace,
To the tulip and rose when blended with taste.

A REBUS, *by S. C. Moore, of Horswell House.*

A Trojan prince you'll first explain,
Who at the siege of Troy was slain;
My next a beast, both strong and stout,
Whose use is known this isle throughout;
Pomona's treasure search, and view
A fruit that's of a beauteous hue;
And next a town in Devonshire
Be pleased, gents. to make appear;
That man, ye bards, you'll represent,
Whom David did so much lament;
And when this mortal life is o'er,
I hope I shall my last explore:
Rebusian gents, when you have join'd
These few initials right,
A beauteous warbler they'll unfold
Whose strains afford delight.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

AGNES,

A paraphrastic Imitation of a Passage in Voltaire's "Pucelle," Chant Premier.

"*Imaginez de Flore la jeunesse,*
"*La taille, et l'air de la nymph des bois,*" &c.

IMAGINE vernal Flora, drest
In youthful beauty's charms,
When, by her Zephyrus carest,
Each soft'ning sigh alarms.

Imagine Diun's modest grace,
With every trait combin'd,
That, beaming from th' expressive face,
Denotes the noble mind.

Go, cull from the Idalian grove
Each flower that decks its queen;
And borrow of the god of love
His fascinating mien.

Let fam'd Arachne's curious art
The glowing picture aid;
Since wit and genius charms impart
When beauty's self doth fade.

The fair idea to complete,
Add all th' enchanting notes
Of song which, dangerously sweet,
Trills thro' the Tyrrhene grots.

Then you'll conceive what Agnes was,
Who all those pow'rs possest,
Which kings nor heroes dare oppose,
But deem their slavery blest.

Falmouth, January 30, 1806. DAMON.

JANUARY.

BREME January runs his round,
His chamfer'd brow with cypress bound;
While hissing meteors, high in air,
Flung from his stormy chariot, glare,
And sneaping winds, the glade along,
Howl mournfully their hideous song.
The clouded sun seems set at noon:
Night scarce discerns her muffled moon:
Dormant lies ev'ry beauteous birth,
Deep in the lap of mother earth;
And pleasure, panic-stricken, flies
From ravag'd plains and frowning skies.
Yet ling'ring hope's celestial form
Still braves the fury of the storm.

And

And breathes around the infant year
Those spells that drooping nature cheer;
That, maugre the inclement clime,
Can turn the arrowy wrath of time,
And give, tho' present woes annoy,
Consoling hopes of future joy.

Lines written in a Cottage, during the late Stormy Weather.

O! where shall I fly from the storm's sullen roar?
Destruction sure waits on its wild raging blast!
Dark, dark are the clouds, and the torrents they pour
Seem to threaten the earth with a deluge that's vast!
The lightning's dread glare shoots athwart in the sky,
And I shrink from such terrors, yet where can I fly?

Hark! hark! 'twas the wind as it rush'd down the steep,
Resistless it seem'd, and methought, tho' so low,
This cottage had bent to the menacing sweep,
For it shook, at the rage of the blast, to and fro;
In fearful suspence of the danger that's nigh,
I breathless remain—for where can I fly?

Now the fastenings are burst from the casements and door,
From "the pitiless storm" scarcely shelter is found!
For chilling the wind is, and damp is the floor,
Where the rain, beating in, spreads curl'd eddies around;
Be still thou vast spirit, who troublest the sky!
In pity be still, for I've no where to fly!

Cold fear shakes my soul! 'midst the hurricane's rage,
Which to a rude chaos all nature deforms,
No soothing sound cheers me; no voice to assuage
My dread of the peril, which lurks in the storms!
I gaze in despair! Alas! no one is by
To hear my complaint, and to whom can I fly!

HENRIETTA.

EVENING.

THE sun was sinking in the western sky,
And ting'd with red the heavenly dome;
Nature fatigu'd, seem'd gently to repose,
And hide her beauties in the shades of night.
Silence, the queen of solitude now reigns,
Save where the nightingale resumes her lay,
And fills the air with its melodious strains.
Or thro' the silence listening, I hear
The gentle bleatings of the distant flock.
Phœbus now sunk beneath the distant hill;
The silver moon resumes her milder reign,
Whilst glitt'ring stars and shining planets rise
To enrich the firmament of heaven.

EPIGRAM.

JOHN TROTT was desir'd by two witty peers
To tell them the reason why asses had ears.
"An't please you," quoth John, "I'm not given to letters,
"Nor dare I pretend to know more than my betters:
"Howe'er, from this time, I shall ne'er see your graces,
"As I hope to be sav'd without thinking of asses."